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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

IM31/0815
ROCKEY, MILNAMOW & KATZ LTD.
TWO PRUDENTIAL PLAZA-SUITE 4700
180 NORTH STETSON AVENUE
CHICAGO IL 60601

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED
08/680,067	07/15/96	026	LEADER, W 1741	08/15/00
First Named Applicant	SCHMIDT, 35 USC 154(b) term ext. = 0 Days.			

TITLE OF INVENTION
PLATING SYSTEM FOR SEMICONDUCTOR MATERIALS

ATTYS DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEE DUE	DATE DUE
1 SE10-0108	204-224.00R	080	UTILITY	NO	\$1210.00	11/15/00

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.

THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.

HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

- A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or
- B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or
- B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number.
Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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08/680,067 07/15/96 SCHMIDT

W SE10-0108

EXAMINER

IM31/0815

ROCKEY, MILNAMOW & KATZ LTD.
TWO PRUDENTIAL PLAZA-SUITE 4700
180 NORTH STETSON AVENUE
CHICAGO IL 60601

LEADER, W	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

1741

DATE MAILED:

08/15/00

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course.

☒ This communication is responsive to the amendments filed on 7/2/99 and 10/20/99.

☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4, 8-16, 18 and 20-31.

☐ The drawings filed on _____ are acceptable.

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY to comply with the requirements noted below is set to EXPIRE **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this Office action. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

☐ Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION, PTO-152, which discloses that the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.

☒ Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS

☐ because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal.

☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948, attached hereto or to Paper No. _____

☒ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed on 7/2/99, which has been approved by the examiner.

☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the reverse side of the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftperson.

☐ Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any reply to this notice should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s) _____

☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

☒ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

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An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Lawrence Chapa on August 14, 2000.

In the Specification:

Page 16, line 5: "620" (second occurrence) has been changed to --630--.

In the Claims:

L Claim 8 has been rewritten as follows:

C1 -- ~~24~~ (amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said process bowl [bottom] is suspended by a bowl chassis, and [further comprising a bowl leveler,] said bowl leveler [connected to said process bowl] is further connected to said bowl chassis for leveling said process bowl relative to said bowl chassis.--

L Claim 16, line 11: --and said anode-- has been inserted after "bottom".

Claim 16, line 14: "annular" has been deleted.

L Claim 22, line 4: "bowl" has been changed to --fluid--.

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Claim 32-39 have been canceled.

COMMENTS

Page 16, line 5 of the specification has been changed to correct a typographical error. Basis for the change is found at page 16, line 22.

As originally presented, claim 8 was directed to the inclusion of a bowl leveler. However, independent claim 1 was amended by the paper submitted on June 29, 1999, to recite "a bowl leveler connected to said process bowl for leveling said process bowl relative to said fluid reservoir." Claim 8 has been amended to be consistent with claim 1 as now written. A bowl leveler is shown in figure 8 and described at page 18, lines 1-14 of the specification. Lines 7-10 state that "The levelers may consist of jack screws threaded within the edge of module deck plate 666 and in contact with the process module frame 606 so as to elevate the process bowl assembly 603 relative to the process module 20." The structural elements shown in figure 8 are considered to represent one embodiment in which a process bowl is suspended by a bowl chassis, as recited in claim 8, to allow leveling relative to the fluid reservoir, as now recited in claim 1. In claim 8, line 1 the word "bottom" has been deleted as unnecessary since, as shown in figure 8, the bottom of the bowl is integral with the remainder of the bowl, and the whole bowl is suspended.

Line 11 of claim 16 has been amended to clarify what the fluid inlet is



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between. Basis is found in originally presented claim 17. Line 14 of claim 16 referred to "said first annular space. The limitation that the first space was annular lacked antecedent basis and has been deleted. It is noted that claim 18 recites that the first space is annular in shape.


In line 4 of claim 22, the expression "said bowl cup" has been changed to --said fluid cup-- to agree with claim 21, line 4 and the wording of the other preceding claims.

Claims 32-39 have been canceled since they were directed to a nonelected invention.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William Leader, whose telephone number is (703) 308-2530. The examiner can normally be reached Mondays-Fridays from 7:30 AM to 3:00 PM eastern time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kathryn Gorgos can be reached at (703) 308-3328. The fax phone number for *official* after final faxes is (703) 305-3599. The fax phone number for all other *official* faxes is (703) 305-7718. Unofficial communications to the Examiner should be faxed to (703) 305-7719.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.


William Leader:wtl
August 14, 2000


Kathryn Gorgos
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1700

